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Storm Tide Explored in Cedar Key and Yankeetown

Storm tide can be one of the most deadly and damaging aspect of a tropical cyclone. Preliminary damage estimates from Hurricane Ike were \$32 billion and climbing, making it the third most costliest U.S. storm behind 2005 Hurricane Katrina (\$81.2 billion) and 1992 Hurricane Andrew (\$40.7 billion). Most of Ike's damage was caused by the storm tide. On November 12, 2008, your National Weather Service (NWS) in Ruskin visited with emergency response officials in Yankeetown, Cedar Key, and Levy County to discuss storm tide observing and forecasting. The storm tide is the storm surge plus the astronomical tide. A surge at low tide will not cause as much damage as a storm at high tide because the water level will be lower. Visit <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov> to view live and historic tidal data.



Members of the National Weather Service and Cedar Key Councilman Pat O'Neal explore the instruments on the C-MAN station on Cedar Key. From left to right are Ernie Jillson and Brian LaMarre (NWS), Pat O'Neal, and Charlie Paxton (NWS).

